

RESOLUTION NO. R2008-100

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA DECLARING THE NEED FOR AN ECONOMIC TRANSITION AND SUPPORT PLAN IN RESPONSE TO THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT'S INITIATIVE TO PURCHASE ALL UNITED STATES SUGAR CORPORATION ASSETS; RECOMMENDING MUTUAL COOPERATION WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND THE SFWMD PROVIDING FOR DISTRIBUTION OF THIS RESOLUTION TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the South Florida Water Management District has publicly announced its initiative to purchase assets of the US Sugar Corporation and the acquisition of these assets as proposed will have a severe effect on the future economy and well-being of the Tri-Cities area and all of Western Palm Beach County; and

WHEREAS, the economic impact may include the closure of a major industry in the Glades and the loss of 1,700 direct jobs and upwards of 2,000 service related jobs in the Glades area; additionally, residential and commercial property values in the Glades and the related revenue base within the Tri-Cities and Western Palm Beach County may be affected; and

WHEREAS, to enhance and protect the future interests of Western Palm Beach County and in particular the Tri-Cities area, an Economic Transition and Support Plan must be prepared and mutually agreed upon by the SFWMD, the State of Florida, and the Western Palm Beach County cities, including the Cities of Belle Glade, Pahokee and South Bay.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON, THAT:

1. The Village of Wellington supports the Tri-Cities of Belle Glade, Pahokee, and South Bay pledge of cooperation with the Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development (OTTED), with Florida's Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) and encourages the parties to work diligently with OTTED and REDI and with the SFWMD to prepare and implement an Economic Transition and Support Plan which will be beneficial to all parties concerned and encourages the porters to support the economy of the Glades area.

2. The Village of Wellington agrees that OTTED, REDI, and SFWMD should implement measures to ensure that all of Western Palm Beach County Communities including Cities of Belle Glade, Pahokee, and South Bay and all Glades area communities will be an integral part of this process and will be kept fully informed as to the issues surrounding this purchase. As the SFWMD negotiates the purchase of the US Sugar Corporations' assets, regularly

scheduled informational meetings should be conducted to which the of West Palm Beach Communities including Cities of Western Palm Beach County including the Cities of Belle Glade, Pahokee and South Bay and all Glades area communities should be invited and at which the input of the Glades area communities shall be solicited and duly considered.

3. The Village of Wellington encourages the development of an economic plan that will allow the economies of the Glades area communities to be enhanced during and after the transition that is caused by the changed circumstances which result from the proposed purchase.

4. A copy of this resolution will be distributed to all interested parties and appropriate agencies of record.

5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption and shall remain in full force and effect until duly amended.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of September, 2008.

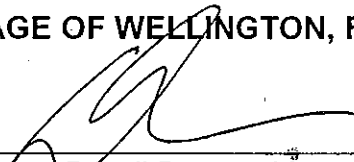
ATTEST:

VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA

BY:

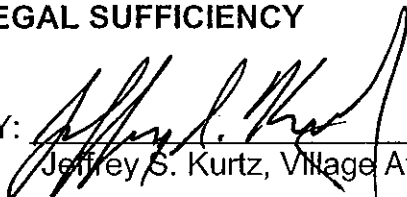

Awilda Rodriguez, Village Clerk

BY:


Darell Bowen, Mayor

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY**

BY:


Jeffrey S. Kurtz, Village Attorney